



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**Revised Press Release**

**SIX INDIVIDUALS INDICTED FOR FAILURE TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT**

Acting United States Attorney Anthony J. Jenkins and Virgin Islands Attorney General Alva Swan announced today that a federal grand jury returned a true bill on April 7, 2005, charging six individuals with failure to pay child support under Title 18, United States Code, Section 228(a)(3).

As of today, the six individuals have been arrested. They are identified as follows: CULVA A. LUKE, age 39, THOMAS KENYON age 37, JEFFREY TURBE, age 44, FLOYD SISTERHENM, age 52, ROBERT HANOSKY, age 53, and PETER BARON, age 44. Mr. Luke is a resident of New York City, Mr. Hanosky is a resident of St. John, and the other individuals are residents of St. Thomas.

Attorneys Jenkins and Swan stated that this indictment is the culmination of several months of investigation led by the Virgin Islands Department of Justice Paternity and Child Support Division and the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General regarding the parents that have failed to pay child support, also commonly referred to as "Deadbeat Dads".

The indictments allege that the defendants have failed to pay child support for several

years and owe over \$10,000 in back child support. The amounts owed by the Defendants range from \$14,000 to \$56,000. Each defendant faces a potential two years in prison and a \$250,000 fine in addition to the amount owed for child support which has to be repaid as restitution.

Attorneys Jenkins and Swan thanked Bruno Varano, Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge, Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General and Regina De'Chabert, Director of Paternity and Child Support Division, Virgin Islands Department of Justice, for their hard work in successfully investigating and bringing this case to fruition, without incident. He also thanked the Drug Enforcement Administration's HIDTA Task Force and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement for their assistance in today's arrests.

Attorneys Jenkins and Swan emphasized that the Indictment is merely a formal charging document and that all the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until guilt is established at trial.